

SPRING GROVE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2021, 6:00 PM
Spring Grove Communications

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular meeting of the Spring Grove City Council was called to order by Mayor Solberg at 6:02 P.M. on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, at Spring Grove Communications Room 100 and VIA Zoom.

Present: Mayor Scott Solberg, Council Members Karen Folstad, Chad Rohland, Trent Turner, and Travis Torgerson.

Also Present: City Clerk/Administrator Julie Amundson, Caledonia Argus, Jordan Gerard, Fillmore County Journal, Charlene Selbee, Swim Center Managers Mariah Edgington and Alyssa Johnson, Bobbi Holland, Jenn Gulbranson, Robin Middendorf, Stephanie Gulbranson, Mariah Klug, and Kent Whitcomb with MI Energy. CEDA Courtney Bergey Swanson and Alex Herr VIA Zoom.

Council Member Turner moved to adopt the agenda, second by Council Member Torgerson, all approved, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Turner move to approve the consent agenda, second by Council Member Folstad, all approved, motion carried.

OPEN FORUM

None

OLD BUSINESS

Alyssa Johnson and Mariah Edgington gave an update on Swim Center a survey they conducted with lifeguards to see who would be available to work the extended hours. There was not enough staff to provide coverage for the extra hours. 165 lessons would need to be cancelled or rescheduled if there was a schedule change with only 10 open spots available. Discussion on options for staffing, adding lifeguards when needed, possible calling back to work if capacity required more guards. Point was made, these issues need to be addressed at the beginning of the year, not mid-season, for this year a common ground needs to be determined. Council Member Turner moved to leave the schedule as it is for 2021, Council Member Folstad second the motion

with the amendment to change that the pool be open until 6:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday if there is a demand, second by Council Member Folstad, all voted in favor, motion carried.

Administrator Amundson stated no applications have been received for the Water / Wastewater Operator position. The open position has been posted on the Minnesota Rural Water Board. Directive was given to run ads in local newspapers, the Minnesota Rural Water Board, and to check into whether the League of MN Cities has somewhere to post the position until position has been filled.

Administrator Amundson read the response from the survey whether to change to garbage carts or stay with the yellow bags. 500 letters were mailed out to residents with stamped, self-addressed postcards to be returned with response, 261 were returned. Results were carts 149, and bags 112. Council Member Rohland moved to go with the garbage carts, second by Council Member Turner, Council Members, Rohland, Torgerson, Turner and Solberg voted in favor, opposed Council Member Folstad, motion carried.

Council Member Rohland requested to allow vehicles to park on the lawn by the swimming pool during Musikk Fest if extra parking space was needed. Mayor Solberg moved to allow parking by the pool if the ground conditions were suitable and not wet, second by Council Member Torgerson, all voted in favor, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Turner moved to hire Summer Recreation Employees Kennedy Bornholdt and Tiahna Garcia for dance classes, second by Mayor Solberg, all voted in favor, motion carried.

Courtney Bergey Swanson from CEDA gave an update on what they have been working on. Rebecca Charles has received another contract and is no longer working with the City of Spring Grove. Alex Herr has been working with Rebecca during this transition and will be her replacement. Spring Grove is one of four rural communities in the nation to participate in the Citizen's Institute on Rural Design and will receive a \$6,000.00 grant. This grant will be used to gather community input and participation in the national cohort for the betterment of the city. Spring Grove 2030 Committee will be working with potential funders and partnering with RSP Architects to examine the needs of Spring Grove. Reviewed the RFP (Request For Proposal) on the Quonset parcel as a potential area for a development for housing. Mayor Solberg moved to approve the RFP (request for proposal) with changes, and send out to potential developers. Second by Council Member Torgerson, all voted in favor, motion carried.

Courtney explained Cobblestone is still interested in building a hotel in Spring Grove. The area of consideration at this point is the acreage out by the Aquatic Center.

Kent Whitcom from MiEnergy gave a presentation on Electric Vehicle Charging. MiEnergy would like to give the city a level 2 EV charging station, valued at \$5,139.00. Spring Grove

would need to cover the cost of installation and electrical connection. Decision will need to be made at the July meeting whether or not to accept the charging station.

Council Member Turner moved to approve the signing of Resolution 21-26 Authoring Limited Use Permit from MN DOT. Second by Council Member Rohland, all voted in favor, motion carried.

MAYOR/COUNCIL

Mayor Solberg announced Spring Grove was the recipient of the 2021 City of Excellence Award with the LMC. A cash prize of \$1,000.00 will be awarded to Spring Grove.

Next Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 6.00 pm in the Spring Grove Communications Room 100.

Budget workshop scheduled for Tuesday June 29, 2021 at 5:00 pm at City Hall.

MEETING REPORTS

EDA – Introduced Alex Herr, no update on the Village Motel, working to send out RFP to developers.

PARKS – No Meeting

PLANNING AND ZONING – reviewed application and approved permit for Jon Kruse in the Industrial Park, talked about the comp plan.

LIBRARY – Library Director Jana Halvorson transition is going well. Current Director Dawn Johnson's last day is July 31. Jana's former position will be posted in August.

FIRE DEPT. – No Meeting

CLOSED SESSION

The time being 8:20 pm, and pursuant to M.S. 13D.05 Subd. 2 (b), motion by Mayor Solberg, seconded by Council Member Turner to close the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The time being 9:35pm, Council reconvened in open session.

The reason the session was closed was pursuant to M.S, 13D.05 Subd. 2 (b) to allow council to consider allegations against an individual subject to Council authority. Mayor Solberg moved to reinstate Officer Martinez effective June 19, 2021 to work under the direct supervision alongside of Chief Folz until further notice, second by Council Member Rohland, all voted in favor motion carried.

Discussed offer presented by the Union.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Rohland moved to adjourn at 9:35 pm, second by Council Member Torgerson, all voted in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Attested: _____

Julie Amundson

Clerk/Administrator